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FCC Mail Room

ORIGINAL

Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: In the Matter of applications of AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for consent to assign or Transfer Control of licenses and Authorizations; (WT Proceeding-No. 11-65).

Dear Commissioners:

As the president of a small liberal arts university located in a rural setting, I know quite well how important it is for us to be connected to technology, just as our peers are in the larger cities. While we believe our outstanding faculty and programs distinguish LMU, the simple fact is access to the latest innovation will increasingly have a profound impact on our ability to attract the best students.

I of course leave it to your expert judgment to determine the veracity of the claims made in favor of any particular transaction requiring FCC regulation. But I do want you to know that, if the AT&T / T-Mobile merger will actually be able to deliver mobile broadband service to rural East TN and Southeastern Kentucky, our academic community supports it.

It is almost intuitive that an institution of higher learning should have the very best technology the Information Age can offer. But often people are unaware how exactly it can make a difference to a student's undergraduate experience; it is no longer just a matter of researching term papers or using Skype to keep in touch with their families.

For example, while students from our School of Osteopathic Medicine are fulfilling their residency programs, they need access off campus to the university's resources. Many times the only way to do this may be via a mobile broadband connection. Furthermore, many fields like medicine are expected to rely on real-time interactive applications within the next few years, so it is even more critical that our students keep up with the changing times by utilizing the technology while in school.

Virtually all of our academic programs would gain tremendous value from mobile internet access. Unless there are any outstanding factors that still must be considered, the advantages of this merger would seem to far outweigh any disadvantages. I trust the commissioners to make the decision based on the best information available to them; but from my view, this is a win-win for almost everyone.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "B. Jim Dawson".

Dr. Jim Dawson, President
Lincoln Memorial University

CC:

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell